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English

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**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief
assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance:
special economic assistance to individual countries or regions**

**Letter dated 25 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of
Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the humanitarian ceasefire in the Sudan issued on 19 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) **Marjatta Rasi**
Permanent Representative of
Finland to the United Nations

* A/54/150.



Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the humanitarian ceasefire in the Sudan issued on 19 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the decision of the Government of the Sudan of 5 August to declare a 70-day humanitarian ceasefire. The European Union remains, however, very concerned at the humanitarian situation in South Sudan caused by the long civil war and continuous fighting.

The European Union calls upon the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement to fully implement their respective commitments to a humanitarian ceasefire and to cover all areas of humanitarian needs and activities of Operation Lifeline Sudan, and to enter into a mutual agreement on a permanent comprehensive humanitarian ceasefire.

The European Union also strongly calls upon both sides to fully carry out in good faith their commitment to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development peace process.

The European Union reiterates its full support to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development peace process.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus and Malta and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.
